

MINUTES
State Board of Education
November 10-11, 2003

The November meeting of the State Board of Education was held in the State Board Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines. The following Board members were present: Gene Vincent, Sally Frudden, Jim Billings, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Greg McClain, Mary Jean Montgomery, Don Roby, Kay Wagner and Megan Srinivas. Charles Edwards – Absent. Also present were Department Director Ted Stilwill and Department staff members Gail Sullivan, Judy Jeffrey, Carol Greta, Lee Tack, Janice Friedel, Kathi Slaughter, Jeff Berger, Dianne Chadwick, Deb Hansen, Kathy Look, Beverly Showers, Ken McQuire, Michelle Wendel, Karen Poole and Beverlee Adams. Also present were: John Gillespie and Tami Fujanki, Iowa Public Television, Todd Dorman, *Lee Newspapers*, Joe Romano, Ann McCarthy, Pam Dugdale, Legislative Caucus Staff; Robin Madison, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Madelaine Jerousek, *Des Moines Register*, and Rod Boshart, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*.

President Vincent called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

It was moved by Kay Wagner and seconded by Sally Frudden to approve the agenda as written.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Board Reports

Don Roby had a handout describing the purpose of the Community College Council and explaining that the law indicates the council is a committee of the Board. He also reviewed the items discussed and approved at the Community College Council meeting. Roby indicated that since UNI President, Dr. Koob's visit at the September Community College Council meeting, copies of the community college reports would now be sent to Regent's universities.

Sally Frudden recognized Cheryl Donlon, professor at Northeast Iowa Community College, as being chosen for Carnegie Foundation Faculty Member of the Year.

She then reported that the Iowa Learns Council had divided into three transition teams and were developing goals for these teams. Frudden shared information on a partnership between UNI (a doctoral student) and TLC (The Learning Center in Charles City) to look at the possibility of moving to universal preschool and standards. She reported that Florida and California had proposed universal preschool for all four-year-olds regardless of the economic status of their families.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick indicated she had attended the Coordinating Council for Post High School Education meeting. The main issues discussed were the effort to minimize drinking on college campuses and discussing career planning software. The community college trustees, independent colleges and the Student Aid Commission are all part of the ongoing discussion to support a statewide initiative in this area.

Mary Jean Montgomery said she had met with the Iowa Public Television Board and they were continuing to move ahead with their strategic plan. She also talked about the cuts that had been made at Iowa Public Television and the effect they would have on education.

Montgomery also indicated she had talked with NASBE on the study groups that would be selected this year. The two topics were reducing the achievement gap and academic eligibility versus accountability. She said that boards across the nation are having this discussion. Greg McClain had been selected to serve on the academic eligibility study group.

Jim Billings stated he had attended the Technology Advisory Committee in October. Much of the discussion was about the fact that you cannot use technology to replace an educational system. Instructors are still needed. The Committee is really just getting started but Iowa is one of a few states that have some guidelines, policies or regulations on guiding what will be done with technology and distance learning itself.

Billings also reported he had had the opportunity to attend a summit on high school leadership in Washington, DC with Ted Stilwill and other staff. There were excellent presentations of schools that were doing an outstanding job and making a difference.

Kay Wagner reported she had attended the town hall meeting on No Child Left Behind and the area superintendent's meeting.

Greg McClain stated that he had also attended the No Child Left Behind town hall meeting in his area. He felt it was a good opportunity for people to get their questions answered and express their emotions. He had also attended the I-JAG meeting which had been hosted by John Deere-Waterloo.

McClain participated in the NASBE Finance and Audit Committee meeting which was the last meeting of that group and a balanced budget was approved. He encouraged all members to read the excellent articles in the NASBE leadership publication about teaching all students.

Megan Srinivas brought a copy of her thesis resulting from her trip to Kenya last summer to share with Board members.

Gene Vincent reported that he and Director Stilwill met with a State Representative from Des Moines. The productive discussion centered around the Board's view on minority, under-privileged students and how their interests were represented on the Board. Vincent indicated he had invited the Representative to visit a school district in western Iowa to observe what is happening with students in smaller districts.

Director Report

Director Stilwill reported on the following items:

- Iowa Learns Council Update
- No Child Left Behind Progress
- Department Budget Review

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

The minutes of the September 11-12, 2003 State Board meeting were approved.

Rules

281, Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 21.33, Tuition Fee Established, State Mandated DUI Course was approved for adoption.

281, Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 97, Supplemental Weighting (regional academies) was approved for adoption.

281, Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 34, Funding for Children Residing in State Institutions or Mental Health Institutes was approved for adoption.

281, Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 68, Public Charter Schools was approved for adoption.

281, Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 47, Career Academies was approved for adoption.

Accreditation to add 4th and 5th grades to St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School, Des Moines

St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School was approved for accreditation to add 4th and 5th grades.

Appeal Decisions

The following appeal decisions were approved:

In re Marcus Kavanaugh. The decision affirms the April 24, 2003 decision of the Southern Cal Community School District indicating that Marcus Kavanaugh and Jon and Josh Perry were in violation of the District's good conduct policy.

Rules: Teacher Quality and Professional Development

Judy Jeffrey, Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education presented an overview of the process taken to establish the teacher quality and professional development rules.

She indicated with the passage of teacher quality legislation, the Department had been writing or revising rules as implementation proceeds. Chapter 83 included requirements for implementing the teacher quality legislation. The rules specify requirements for the district career development plan. The Department had received a request from the Rules Review Committee to remove the requirements from Chapter 12 and place them in Chapter 83. Ms. Jeffrey said the recommendation would terminate Chapter 12, Division VII and approve notice of intended action for amending Chapter 83 rules as presented.

Motion: It was moved by Sally Frudden and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick that Chapter 12, Division VII be terminated.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Don Roby that the State Board approve the notice of intended action for amending Chapter 83 rules as presented.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Status Report on Issues Related to the ICN

Director Ted Stilwill introduced John Gillispie, Executive Director of the Iowa Communications Network. Mr. Gillispie discussed some of the current proposals related to the future of the ICN. Following were some of the ideas:

K-12 and Community College Usage of ICN Services

- ICN Community College Video Usage
- ICN K-12 Video Services Usage
- ICN Community College Voice Services Usage
- ICN K-12 Voice Services Usage
- ICN Community College Internet Subscription Rate
- ICN AEA and K-12 Internet Subscription Rate

The Environment in Iowa

- Educational Environment
- State Government Environment
- Telecommunications Environment

Municipal Utilities Plan

Gillispie discussed the history of the ICN as well as the objectives of the 2003 legislative session and some possible solutions to the selling of the ICN assets.

Mary Jean Montgomery asked about the municipal utilities plan and how it would work. Roby suggested that the Board could support the ICN by describing benefits of the system. Gene Vincent indicated the Board would be in support of the ICN and would like to endorse the education benefits.

Appeal Decision

In re Mary Oehler, Kenneth and Marilyn Oehler v. Davenport Community School District, 22 D.o.E. App. Dec. 46.

Motion: Jim Billings moved and Kay Wagner seconded that the Board move to closed session according to Code of Iowa, Chapter 21.51F.

Vote: A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Frudden, Billings, Fitzpatrick, McClain, Montgomery, Roby, Wagner and Vincent. Edwards – Absent.

Closed Session

Motion: It was moved by Greg McClain and seconded by Kay Wagner to approve the proposed decision.

Vote: A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Frudden, McClain, Roby and Wagner. Nay: Billings, Fitzpatrick, Montgomery and Vincent. Absent: Edwards

The motion ended in a tie; motion failed. A rewritten decision shall be brought back before the Board.

Quality Teacher Legislation

Judy Jeffrey, Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education presented this agenda item. She introduced Deb Hansen, Consultant and Beverly Showers, nationally known expert in professional development and primary consultant on the Iowa Model.

Beverly Showers outlined a summary of the Iowa Professional Development Model. She indicated the intent of the Iowa Model was to provide a structure for professional development that is focused, collaborative, and that directly supports the Comprehensive School Improvement Process goals for student achievement. She indicated the Iowa Model was a collaborative effort of the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa Teacher Quality Professional Development Stakeholder Group. Showers discussed the school district requirements and how a district accomplished gains in student achievement through staff development.

Ms. Showers explained the Iowa Professional Development Standards and how a school could get started. She also gave the Board additional sources of information to contact.

Announcement

President Vincent recognized Board member Sally Frudden as having been selected as Woman of the Year in Charles City, Iowa. The Board extended congratulations.

Results of Recent Survey of High Schools Re: Academic Eligibility of Students to Participate in Interscholastic Athletics

Carol Greta reviewed the findings of the high school survey regarding academic eligibility of students to participate in interscholastic athletics. Greta indicated there was an 80 percent response rate.

Greg McClain indicated his thought has been to raise expectations not necessarily the GPA. Mary Jean Montgomery expressed thoughts on the responses from districts and the interpretation. The survey was in response to a recommendation that the State Board had made a year ago. Director Stilwill said the recommendation was that local boards formally, at an open meeting, discuss the eligibility policy and determine whether or not their local policy was stringent enough for their student populations.

Don Roby stated he still had the same concern on this issue and he felt we should not be placing any more barriers out there that would cause a student to leave school.

Mary Jean Montgomery said that teachers and administrators and athletic directors want all kids to succeed, but she felt the standard was too low and more should be expected of students.

Megan Srinivas, student member, stated that she felt students should be expected to achieve more than a “pass all”.

President Vincent recommended that Greg McClain as a member of the NASBE study group on athletic eligibility bring back information from that agenda to the Board. Director Stilwill indicated he felt the study group’s concern would be more about the professionalism of athletics.

After further discussion, Gene Vincent said he would visit with members on an individual basis to determine if a consensus could be built and would get back to them.

Community College Performance Indicators Task Force Progress Report

Administrator Janice Friedel and Karen Poole, Consultant, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation presented this agenda item. Poole indicated the purpose of the presentation was three-fold: 1) to seek action of the State Board to approve eight community college performance indicators, which were pilot tested in August 2002 to present; 2) to inform the State Board of the persistence study results and to request that the DE conduct a pilot test of persistence as an indicator and 3) to inform the State Board of the capabilities of the National Data Student Clearinghouse and to recommend that the Department continue to investigate the clearinghouse capabilities related to community college indicators.

Friedel recommended the Board approve the eight community college performance indicators. She also recommended that the Department of Education continue the investigation of indicators related to persistence and student success after leaving the community college.

Don Roby felt that economic development language should be incorporated into the document.

Motion: Greg McClain moved and Don Roby seconded an amendment to the original motion to investigate quantifiable goals for each performance indicator and persistence rate including disaggregated subgroups as well as including economic development language.

Vote: The motion for the amendment carried unanimously.

Motion: Mary Jean Montgomery moved and Kay Wagner seconded that the State Board approve the eight community college performance indicators and recommend that the Department of Education continue the investigation of indicators related to persistence and student success after leaving the community college.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Iowa Community College Fall 2003 Credit Student Enrollment Report

Janice Friedel, Administrator and Michelle Wendel, Consultant, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation presented this report.

Wendel reviewed the fall enrollment data submitted to the Department after the 14th day of the fall term start date. She indicated that all data in the report, except where noted, is taken from the Management Information System (MIS) electronic data files and are confirmed by the community college transmittal sheet. She discussed the following categories:

- Total Enrollment by Program Type
- Full-Time and Part-Time Comparative College Enrollment Totals
- Residency of Students
- Gender of Students
- Age of Students
- Ethnicity of Students
- Student Program Majors
- Type of Program
- Gender Distribution

2003-2004 Academic Year, Iowa Community Colleges Tuition and Fees Report

Janice Friedel, Administrator and Michelle Wendel, Consultant, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation presented this report.

Wendel shared an executive summary of the report that is prepared each fall. She indicated the report included trends among the fifteen community colleges as well as comparisons to the Iowa regent's institutions and national comparisons. She reported that Iowa was 9th in the nation in fees.

Budget: FY04 and 05

Lee Tack, Administrator, Division of Financial and Information Services reported that the Department of Education is required by Code to annually submit appropriation requests to the Department of Management. These requests were submitted October 1, 2003. Tack provided information regarding

current appropriations that have been reduced 2.5 percent as well as appropriations requested for FY05.

Strategic Plan Revision

Gail Sullivan, Chief of Staff reviewed the revisions of the strategic plan. She explained the revisions, based on the initial discussion and follow-up discussions with the State Board. Sullivan said the Department had identified major initiatives to be used in implementing the strategies and working toward achieving the goals. A draft was presented for Board approval.

Motion: Sister Jude Fitzpatrick moved and Sally Frudden seconded that the State Board adopt the revised strategic plan with suggested changes.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Preview of IASB Conference Presentation, *Annual Condition of Education Report*

Director Ted Stilwill introduced the 2003 report. He reviewed the information about Iowa's education system from prekindergarten through high school included in the report. The report provided information on enrollments, programs, student performance, staff and finance. Stilwill indicated the report serves as a resource document for educators, legislators and citizens seeking information on Iowa's education system. The report will be presented to the Iowa Association of School Boards Annual Conference by Governor Thomas J. Vilsack, President Gene Vincent and Director Ted Stilwill.

President Vincent declared the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Gene Vincent
President

Ted Stilwill, Director and
Executive Officer

